

Fall 8-15-1998

## ENG 2901-002

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English 2901: 002

Fall Semester '98

Dr. John Simpson

Office CH 339K; W- 9:00-12:00; TR-9:30-10:30

Text: Martha Kolln and Robert Funk, Understanding English Grammar, 5<sup>th</sup> ed.

The Course: English 2901 is an introduction to the grammatical structure of English. We will begin with certain aspects of language in general and with a much simplified model of transformational-generative grammar. We will continue with phonology, morphology, verbs, nouns, semantics, syntax and much more. I use little traditional grammar in this course; instead I base my approach on the principles of transformational-generative grammar – TG. Notice that I turn the order of the text topsy-turvy. I expand on some points which the text treats lightly and delete other items completely. This course will challenge you! You must prepare consistently and carefully for each class meeting. The course material is full of new ideas and terms. This course is much closer to science than it is to literary interpretation or composition.

Exams and Grades: There will be three scheduled exams worth 20% each and a final worth 30%. The remaining 10% will be added to the value of whichever of the four exam grades is the highest. There will be 10 bonus points on Exam #3 and 20 bonus points on the final. Any earned bonus points will be added to the total score as the last step before averaging.

Absences and Make-ups: I do not count absences directly in grading. However, this course covers much ground quickly. Since I lecture extensively on matters not covered in the book, and since ALL course material is fair game on the exams, careless class attendance is foolish. I allow make-ups with appropriately documented excuses.

Any questions? Throughout the course, please ask questions whenever there is anything you do not understand. I realize that this course is difficult, so please ask questions.

## English 2901: 002 Schedule of Assignments

Week 1 8-25 General Introduction  
8-27 Appendix A Phonology

Week 2 9-1 cont.  
9-3 Ch. 10

Week 3 9-8 cont., Appendix B-TG  
9-10 Unit Exam #1

Week 4 9-15 Ch. 11  
9-17 cont.

Week 5 9-22 Ch. 12  
9-24 cont.

Week 6 9-29 Ch. 13  
10-1 cont.

Week 7 10-6 Unit Exam #2  
10-8 Ch. 2

Week 8 10-13 cont.  
10-15 cont.

Week 9 10-20 Appendix B, Ch. 3  
10-22 cont.

Week 10 10-27 Ch. 5  
10-29 cont.

Week 11 11-3 cont.  
11-5 Unit Exam #3

Week 12 11-10 Ch. 4  
11-12 cont.

Week 13 11-17 Ch. 6  
11-19 cont.

Week 14 12-1 Ch. 7  
12-3 cont.

Week 15 12-8 Review and synthesis  
12-10 cont.